

WINCHESTER DAILY BULLETIN.

"THE WILL OF A PEOPLE RESOLVED TO BE FREE IS LITTLE LESS THAN OMNIPOTENT."

VOL. 1.

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NO. 175

The Daily Bulletin.

W. J. SLATTER, Proprietor.

Terms:

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The Effect of Hooker's Defeat in the North.

The New York World has a scathing review of the record of the history of the week's fighting on the Rappahannock. It is severe but just, and is at once graphic, comprehensive, and accurate, neither incumbered with useless and unintelligible details nor omitting anything of fact or comment needful to convey to the reader a perfect idea of the plan, attempted execution and failure of Hooker's movements. The World says:

Unless all the indications are deceptive the Administration is again in a panic respecting the safety of the capital. Its unreasoning elation and hopefulness has been followed by an equally uncalculated depression. The proof of this state of feeling is to be found in the reassuring telegrams from official sources which come over the wires, and the statement over Secretary Stanton's own signature that General Hooker is about to resume the offensive from another base. Now it is very clear that General Hooker is not going to do any such thing; unless, indeed, it is his deliberate intention to hand over his army to the safe keeping of the Confederate leader, Gen. Lee. The Army of the Potomac is composed of men like all other armies, and it is not in human nature to endure disappointment of its hopes, defeat and suffering without loss of confidence and heart. If Gen. Hooker's name had been their commander in a number of brilliant victories and his men had profound faith in him, a defeat like that which he has just suffered might have left the troops ready for another forward movement—nay, they might even be eager to retrieve their lost laurels; but as it is, they would be more than men if they were fit for a forward campaign against a victorious enemy, which they know are numerous, daring, and skillfully handled. Stanton's news is evidently intended for Lee; but as that General is not exactly a fool, it will not stop his forward movement, but will rather hasten it—that is if it is any part of his intention to seriously move against Washington. We entertain no fears for the capital. True, anything in the way of a disaster is possible with our present rulers; but even their inefficiency is not equal to the loss of Washington.

In view of the pleasing delusions

which the administration is now endeavoring to propagate, it would be well perhaps to outline some of the leading facts in this short campaign, from which the reader can draw his own moral:

1. It is not true that Lee was surprised or deceived by Hooker's movement across the Rappahannock. From the Richmond papers of last Saturday it is clear that the Confederate military leaders understood it perfectly, and deliberately allowed our army to cross, confident of their ability to defeat if not destroy it. Forney, in the Philadelphia Press, states that Hooker was induced to cross by the assurances of his spies and scouts that the only army to oppose him was one of forty thousand under Jackson. Lee being sick and his army scattered. The Baltimore secessionists had the same report and believed it. Gen. Hooker, therefore, at the start, was the deceived party, and walked straight into the trap that was prepared for him.

2. The great cavalry raid, which was an entire success, did Gen. Hooker no good, because it did not precede, instead of accompanying his movements. Lee's reinforcements had all arrived, before the destruction of the railroads and bridges. To him this is now only a temporary inconvenience. Had Hooker retained his cavalry with his army, it would have been far better for him. He would have captured several thousand more prisoners when Fredericksburg was taken, and, more than all, could have prevented Jackson's surprise of his flank and rear. They might have changed the complexion of the fight.

3. General Hooker's division of his army was as disastrous in this instance, as have been all such in former military history. It is known that Gen. Halleck utterly disapproved of this dispersion of the Union forces, and the result proved that in this case, at least, he was right. If Lee had furnished Hooker with a plan, it could not have been more to his liking. He first hurled all his forces upon Hooker and beat him; this was on Saturday and Sunday, and then on Monday, he repossessed the heights of Fredericksburg, and drove Sedwick across the river, with the loss of one-third of his force. Thus Lee, with one great army, beat two smaller armies in detail.

4. The battles of Saturday and Sunday were indisputable rebel victories, as the enemy's attack upon Sedgwick on Monday proved. The latter was defeated almost before Hooker's eyes, and the latter could not even make a diversion to save him. Lee and Jackson drove our army steadily from point to point until it was crowded back upon the south bank of the river. Our artillery—which, according to the rebel accounts was splendidly served—no doubt saved what remained of the army.

5. The retreat across the river, according to Lee's dispatch to Jeff Davis, commenced on Sunday night, and was in consequence of his signal victory. The Administration's statement is that it was commenced on Tuesday night, simply as a matter of precaution on account of the storm and rising stream. Lee's account has all the known facts and the probabilities on its side. The Union correspondents all agree that the stores and baggage were moved to the north bank on Monday, leaving nothing but the artillery and infantry to cross on Tuesday. The fierce storm of that day probably saved the bulk of our army which was passed over at night.

6. Gen. Hooker's statement of his losses reads as if it was made by Gen. Wadsworth. He says his total loss in killed, wounded and missing will not be more than ten thousand men. If this be true, there are several circumstances that need explaining badly. General Sedgwick alone, all the accounts agree, lost one-third his force, or about six thousand men. But call it five thousand. The capture of Fredericksburg, and the storming of the heights in its rear on Sunday, lost us eight hundred men in killed and wound-

ded. This would leave but little over four thousand to have been killed, wounded and captured in the tremendous battles of Saturday and Sunday, when at the very least one hundred and fifty thousand men met in deadly conflict. If Hooker and Lee commanded Chinese armies this might have been possible, but as they were Americans on both sides it is simply incredible. The rout of the Eleventh corps, and the driving back of our whole lines for two days in succession, must have cost us—we will not say how many men, but certainly more than four thousand. Judging by the other battles of the war, this fight ought to have put twenty-five thousand men hors du combat. General Hooker may be right in his estimate, but if he is, the fighting on both sides was disgraceful.

But the theme is too painful to dwell upon. The whole management of the campaign shows a painful lack both of capacity and true courage; of mental force and a high sense of honor. Our rulers are alike incapable and unvarnished.

Proclamation by the President.

WASHINGTON, May 8.

WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States at its last session enacted a law entitled "An act enrolling and calling out the national forces, and for other purposes," which was approved on the third day of March last; and, whereas, it is recited in said act that there now exists in the United States an insurrection and rebellion against the authority thereof, and it is, under the Constitution of the United States, the duty of the Government to suppress insurrection and rebellion, to guarantee to each State a republican form of government, and to preserve the public tranquility; and, whereas, for these high purposes a military force is indispensable, to raise and support which all persons ought willingly to contribute; and, whereas, no service can be more praiseworthy and honorable than that which is rendered for the maintenance of the Constitution and the Union, and the consequent preservation of free government; and, whereas, for the reasons thus recited, it was enacted by the said statute that all able-bodied male citizens of the United States, and persons of foreign birth who shall have declared on oath their intention to become citizens under and in pursuance of the laws thereof, between the ages of 20 to 45 years, with certain exceptions not necessary to be herein mentioned, and declared to constitute the national forces, shall be liable to perform military duty in the service of the United States when called out by the President for that purpose; and whereas it is claimed in behalf of persons of foreign birth, within the ages specified in said act who have heretofore declared on oath their intentions to become citizens under and in pursuance of the laws of the United States, and who have not exercised the right of suffrage or any other political franchise under the laws of the United States or any of the States thereof, are not absolutely excluded by their aforesaid declaration of intentions from renouncing their purpose to become citizens, and that on the contrary such persons under treaties or the law of nations retain a right to renounce that purpose and to forego the privilege of citizenship and residence within the United States, under the obligation imposed by the aforesaid act of Congress; now, therefore, to avoid all misapprehensions concerning the liability of persons concerned to perform the service required by such enactment, and to give it full effect, I do hereby order and proclaim that no plea of alienage will be received or allowed to exempt from the obligations imposed by the aforesaid act of Congress any person of foreign birth, who shall have declared on oath his intention to become a citizen of the United States under the laws thereof, and who shall be found within the United States at any time during the continuance of the present insurrection and rebellion,

after the expiration of the period of sixty days from the date of this proclamation, nor shall any such plea of alienage be allowed in favor of such person who has as aforesaid declared intention to become a citizen of the United States, and shall have exercised at any time the right of suffrage or any other political franchise within the United States under the laws of any of the several States.

(Signed) ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President:

WM. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

TELEGRAPHIC.

ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCHES.

From Vicksburg.

NORTHERN NEWS:

&c., &c., &c., &c.

RICHMOND, May 22.

Gov. Seymour, in his letter to the Vallandigham sympathizers' meeting at Albany says: The arrest of Vallandigham has brought dishonor upon the country. If the proceedings are approved by the government and sanctioned by the people, it is not merely a step to revolution—it is revolution. We pause to see what kind of government for which we are asked to pour out our blood and treasure. The action of the Administration will determine in the minds of more than one-half of the people of the loyal States whether the war is waged to put down the rebellion in the South or destroy the free institutions of the North. We look for its decision with solemn solicitude.

The first resolution adopted by the meeting in New York denounces the arrest and sentence of Vallandigham as a startling outrage upon the hitherto revered rights of American citizenship. One speaker, referring to Seymour's letter, says, a people would stand by Seymour with guns and bayonets in their hands at all hazards. Loud cheers were given for Seymour.

RICHMOND, May 22.

Northern dates of the 20th are important. The New York Times says the late meeting was a ridiculous demonstration. The Herald treats it as the first note of civil war. The World says it was successful both in numbers and enthusiasm, and speaks of bloodshed on Northern soil.

A Washington dispatch in the Evening Post says there will be no movement on the Potomac for some time. Hooker has been sent to follow his own plans.

Yankee dispatches say that Vicksburg will soon be theirs.

A Cincinnati dispatch says that an invasion of Kentucky is threatened.

Gold 49½ to 49¼.

ATLANTA, May 23.

Grant entered Mississippi, crossing 5 miles below Grand Gulf. He has from 50,000 to 100,000 men, with a heavy force of cavalry. He is receiving no reinforcements from Louisiana, but constantly from the western bank of the river. His transportation is all on the river—mostly along the banks. He evacuated Grand Gulf, falling back, fighting, towards Jackson, followed by the enemy, who entered Jackson on the 18th, with 50,000 men. Gen. Johnston reached Jackson on the 18th, and fell back to Canton. The Yankees, alarmed at finding Johnston there, committed all sorts of excesses, burning churches and private residences, tearing jewelry from ladies' fingers, fled towards Vicksburg on the 16th, followed by Johnston, who was constantly receiving reinforcements.

Vicksburg can only be taken by hunger, having five months' supplies of every kind.

The Yankee rumor of the capture of Alexandria is not believed.

CHARLESTON, May 22.

Steamship Gen. Beauregard, from Nassau on the 20th, arrived this morning. She has a large and valuable cargo. The news is unimportant.

Rosecrans is raising the most formidable defenses on the Cumberland river—preparatory, says a Cincinnati paper, for the grand and final struggles of the rebellion, of which the theatre is to be in Tennessee.